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**CALIFORNIA HEALTHY FOOD FINANCING INITIATIVE COUNCIL (CHFFIC)**

**MEMORANDUM**

**Date:** February 28, 2013

**To:** Council Members

**From:** Najia Rosales, Acting Executive Director

**Subject:** **Agenda Item 6: Understanding CalFresh (Information Item) – Amended**

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This information item provides the California Healthy Food Financing Initiative Council (CHFFIC) an overview of the CalFresh Program, formerly known as Food Stamps and federally known as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). CalFresh assists low income individuals, families, seniors, and working people to purchase nutritious food. It can be used to purchase food at grocery stores, convenience stores, and some farmers' markets and co-op food programs. CalFresh is a federally mandated, state-supervised, and county-operated government program designed to eliminate hunger in the United States.

Linda Patterson, Chief, CalFresh Branch, California Department of Social Services will give the presentation.

**ATTACHMENT**

Attachment 1: Introduction to the CalFresh Program: CalFresh 101

Attachment 2: Efforts to Increase Participation Rates in CalFresh

Attachment 3: Recent Improvements in Program Access by County